

## COVID-19 Update Alabama Department of Public Health July 7, 2021

Getting COVID-19 vaccine into the arms of Alabamians as quickly as possible is our goal.

COVID-19 Cases—552,911

COVID-19 Deaths—11,387

Currently eligible for vaccine—everyone 12 years of age and older

Vaccine Doses Administered—3,277,578

Vaccine Doses Delivered to Alabama—4,662,015

Alabama Healthcare Providers Enrolled—1,387

## **COVID-19 Infection Rates Increase in Alabama**

Today's Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) COVID-19 dashboard update adds 562 cases. Although the increase in COVID-19 cases is largely due to a delay in reporting because of the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday weekend, prompt vaccination is urged to prevent unnecessary illness, hospitalizations, and deaths. The best way to prevent getting the highly infectious and easily transmissible Delta variant or any other strain of COVID-19 is to get vaccinated as quickly as possible. The vaccines we have are highly effective and their benefits far outweigh any risks. Only a very small percentage of deaths due to COVID-19 are among the fully vaccinated population. Based on recent conversations with hospitals, the Alabama Hospital Association reports that more than 90 percent of hospitalized COVID-19 patients in the state are unvaccinated.

## **Percent Positivity Escalates**

Alabama's percent positivity for COVID-19 has increased to its highest point since mid-May, 4.8 percent. This is equal to the percent positivity recorded April 3, 2021, when vaccines had not been readily available.

## **Make Vaccination a Priority**

This July 5<sup>th</sup>, 2,708 doses of COVID-19 vaccine were administered in the state. At the height of vaccine administration on April 8, 45,128 vaccine doses were given. Young people and others who are taking a wait-and-see stance on vaccination should be aware that they need to protect themselves, their families, friends, and communities by getting vaccinated as soon as they can. Safe, effective, and free vaccine shields vulnerable people and saves lives.